

St. John the Baptist Parish



"Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community"

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	St. John the Baptist	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	16.7%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	22.1%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	6.9%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$8,255	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	93.0%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	7.3%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	15.9	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	79.2%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	69.9%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	10.6%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	16.2%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	0.0	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	406.6	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	137.1	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	4.6*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	198.8	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	157.2	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	**	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	6.5	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	2.5	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 3	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	27.8%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI>30 (adults 20+)	31.4%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	75.7%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	85.1%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	73.9%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United States, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EMS/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1 2}

St. John the Baptist was one of the original parishes, created on March 31, 1807. It was first settled by John Law's German colonists who came down from Arkansas, and by many from the war-torn peasantry of Germany, who formed Louisiana's German Coast. St. John the Baptist Parish where ancient Acadian and Creole traditions still abound! Drive by or visit plantation homes, Creole cottages, centuries-old cemeteries and ferry boats located along the Great River Road on both sides of the Mississippi River throughout St. John Parish.



Home of the world famous Andouille (aan-doo-wee) sausage, a spicy, smoked local specialty handed down from the 18th and 19th-century ancestors, Christmas Eve bonfires along the levee, and the oldest operating sugar cane refinery in the U.S. (circa 1802). Only 30 miles from New Orleans, St. John the Baptist Parish offers a unique look into its colorful history with swamp tours and antique shops. Annual festivals include the Andouille Festival in October and the Timbermill Museum festival on the fourth weekend in October.

Parish Seat³ Edgard

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

- LaPlace
- Reserve⁴

Parish Population⁵

2000.....	43,044
2003 (estimate)	44,816
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	52.6%
African-American	44.8%
Some other race.....	2.7%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	2.9%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	8.0%
5-14	17.6%
15-17	5.6%
18-19	3.3%
20-24	6.3%
25-64	51.3%
65 & over	7.8%

Geography and Statistics⁶

Average elevation	15ft.
Land area in square miles	219
Water area in square miles	129

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	68°
January	60°
July	91°
Annual average rainfall	62 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁷

St. John Parish

Civilian.....	20,336
Employed	18,902
Unemployed.....	1,434
Unemployment.....	7.1%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

N/A

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002
2. Louisiana Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism, 1998. keywords: regional information, <<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002
4. A Census Designated Place is "a densely settled concentration of population that is not within an incorporated place, but is locally identified by a name", such as Reserve in St. John the Baptist Parish.
5. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>
6. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>
7. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary <http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>